

Patterns of Physical Geography

Unit ATLAS

Use the Unit Atlas to add to your knowledge of Southwest Asia. As you look at the maps and charts, notice geographic patterns and specific details about the region. For example, the chart gives details about the mountains and deserts of Southwest Asia.

After studying the graphics and physical map on these two pages, jot down answers to the following questions in your notebook.

Making Comparisons

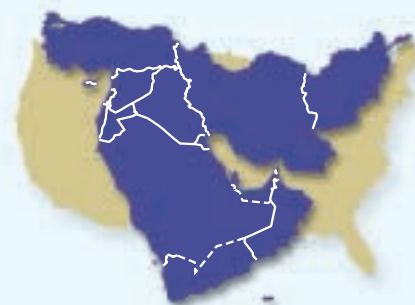
1. Which of Southwest Asia's deserts is about the same size as the Mojave Desert of the United States?
2. How do the tallest mountains of Southwest Asia compare to the tallest U.S. mountain?
3. Which mountain chains cut off Turkey and Iran from the rest of the region? How might isolation affect the way a country develops economically?

Comparing Data

Landmass

Southwest Asia
2,673,262 sq mi

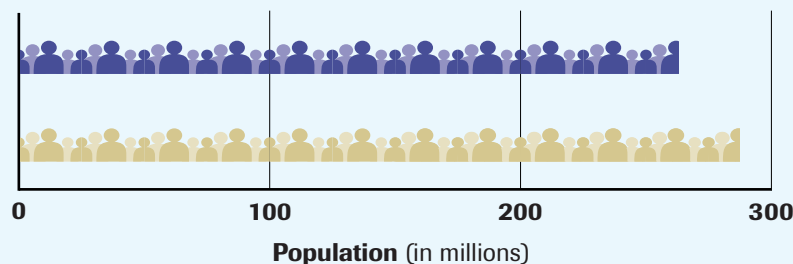
Continental United States
3,165,630 sq mi



Population

Southwest Asia
262,678,000

United States
281,422,000



Deserts

World's Largest Sahara
Africa
3,500,000 square miles

U.S. Largest Mojave
United States
25,000 square miles

Rub al-Khali
Arabian Peninsula
250,000 square miles

An-Nafud
Arabian Peninsula
25,000 square miles

Negev
Israel
4,700 square miles

Mountains

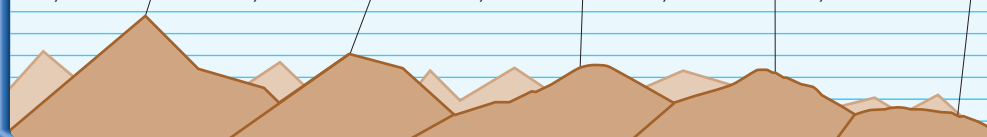
World's Tallest Mt. Everest
Nepal-Tibet
29,035 feet

U.S. Tallest Mt. McKinley
United States
20,320 feet

Damavand
Iran
18,606 feet

Mt. Ararat
Turkey
16,945 feet

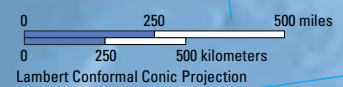
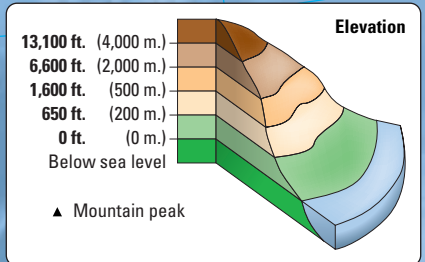
Mt. Hermon
Lebanon-Syria
9,232 feet



For updated statistics on Southwest Asia . . .



Southwest Asia: Physical



Lambert Conformal Conic Projection

Patterns of Human Geography

Unit ATLAS

After World War II (1939-1945), the nation of Israel was created in 1948. Since that time, the peoples and nations of the region have been in conflict with one another.

Study the political map of Southwest Asia and the Israel maps at the right to see how possession of the lands changed. Then write the answers to these questions in your notebook.

Making Comparisons

1. Which areas did Israel occupy in 1967?
2. Study both maps of Israel and the political map and write a sentence describing the changes in land possession from 1948 to the present.
3. What nation is in possession of the Sinai Peninsula today?
4. Which four nations surround the Golan Heights? Who controls the area?

Israel, 1948 and 1967



Southwest Asia: Political





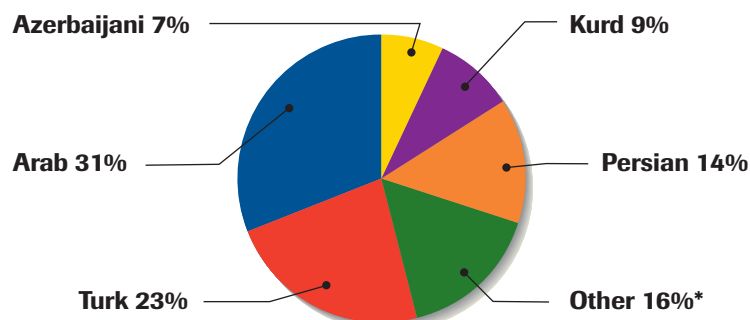
Regional Patterns

These two pages contain a graph and three thematic maps. The graph and two of the maps show the ethnic and religious diversity of Southwest Asia. The third map shows you how people in the region earn a living. After studying these two pages, answer the questions below in your notebook.

Making Comparisons

1. What percentage of the population is Kurdish and where are Kurds found in the region?
2. What area has holy places for three major religions? Why might the location of these places be a problem?
3. What energy sources are found in the region?
4. What is the main economic activity in the region? What does that suggest about the land and the population on it?

Ethnic Groups of Southwest Asia*

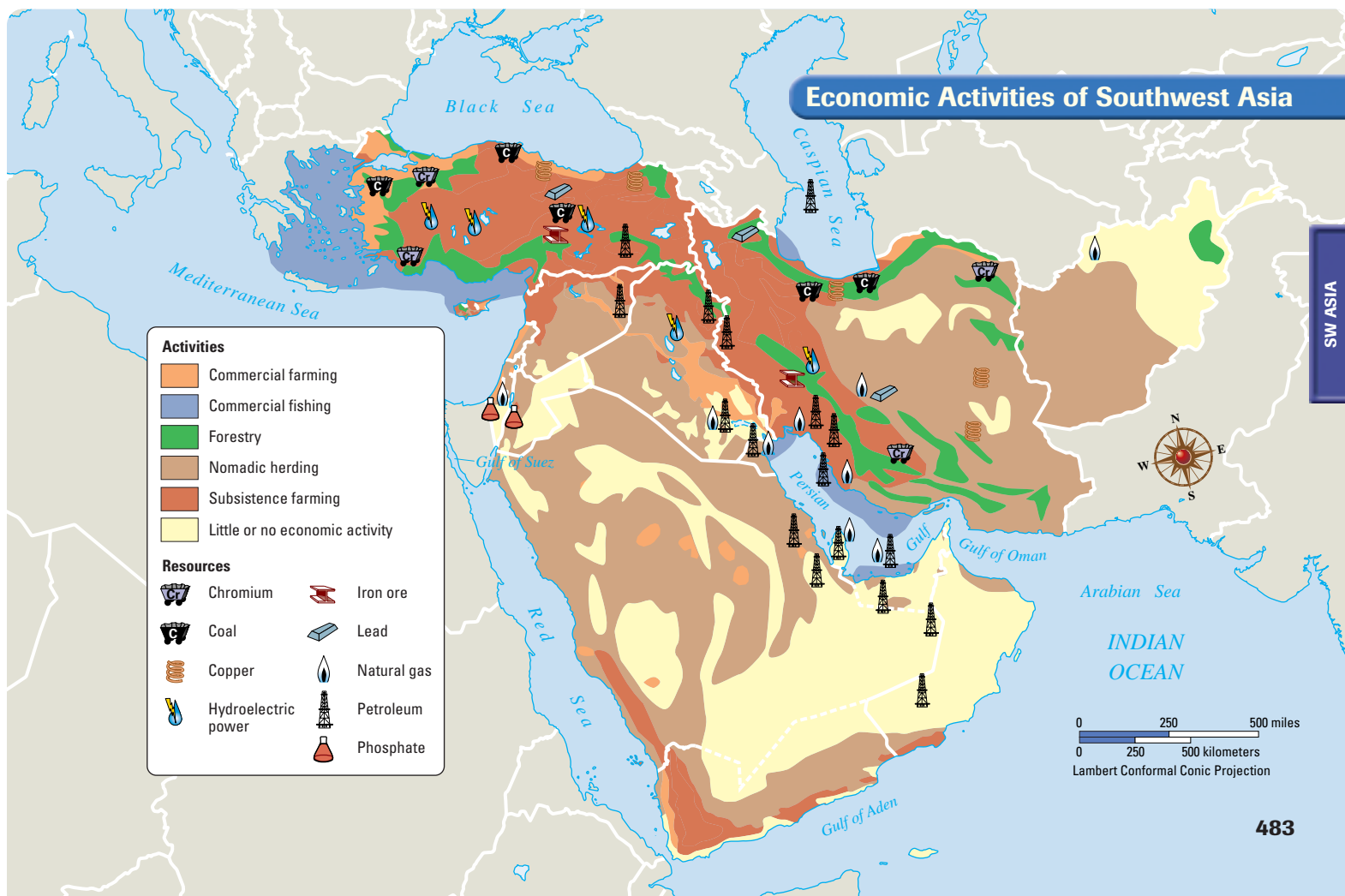
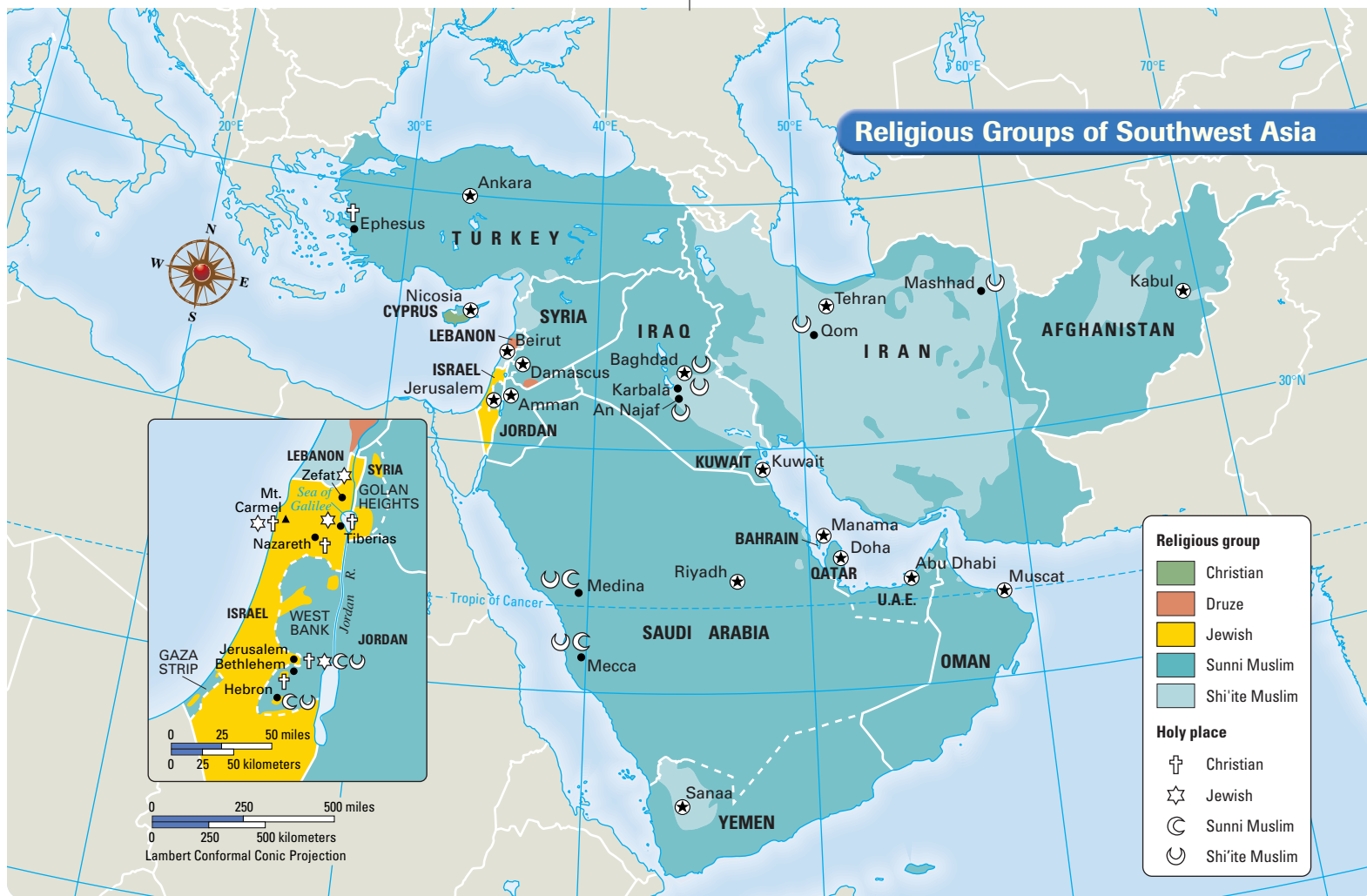


* Includes Jews, who are of different ethnic groups.

SOURCE: *Britannica Book of the Year 2000*; U.S. Census Bureau, International Data Base; CIA World Factbook 2000

Ethnic Regions of Southwest Asia







Regional Data File

Study the information on the countries of Southwest Asia. In your notebook, answer these questions.

Making Comparisons

1. Which nations have more doctors per 100,000 population than the United States?
2. Study the information to determine which nation after Afghanistan is the poorest. On which categories did you base your judgment?
3. Using the map on page 479, make a list of the nations that border the Persian Gulf. How many of those nations have more exports than imports?

Sources:

Human Development Report 2000, UN
International Data Base, U.S. Census Bureau online
Merriam-Webster's Geographical Dictionary, 3d ed., 1997
World Education Report 2000, UNESCO online
World Population Data Sheet 2000, Population Reference Bureau online
WHO Estimates of Health Personnel, online
World Almanac and Book of Facts 2001
World Factbook 2000, CIA online

Notes:

- ^a A comparison of the prices of the same items in different countries is used to figure these data.
^b Includes land and water, when figures are available.

For updated statistics on Southwest Asia . . .



Country Flag	Country/ Capital	Population (2000 estimate)	Life Expectancy (years) (2000)	Birthrate (per 1,000 pop.) (2000)	Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) (2000)
	Afghanistan Kabul	26,668,000	46	43	149.8
	Bahrain Manama	691,000	69	22	8.1
	Cyprus Nicosia	882,000	77	14	7.8
	Iran Tehran	67,411,000	69	21	30.8
	Iraq Baghdad	23,115,000	59	38	127.0
	Israel Jerusalem	6,227,000	78	22	6.0
	Jordan Amman	5,083,000	69	33	34.0
	Kuwait Kuwait	2,190,000	72	24	12.5
	Lebanon Beirut	4,202,000	70	23	34.5
	Oman Muscat	2,353,000	71	44	25.0
	Qatar Doha	591,000	72	20	20.0
	Saudi Arabia Riyadh	21,607,000	70	35	46.4
	Syria Damascus	16,482,000	67	33	34.6
	Turkey Ankara	65,311,000	69	22	37.9
	United Arab Emirates Abu Dhabi	2,835,000	74	24	16.0
	Yemen Sanaa	17,030,000	59	39	75.3
	United States Washington, D.C.	281,422,000	77	15	7.0

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